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Letter dated 15 June 2001 from the Permanent Representative of Liberia to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council

Upon instructions of my Government, I have the honour to transmit herewith a letter dated 12 June 2001 addressed to Lansana Kouyate, Executive Secretary of the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) by Monie R. Captan, Minister of Foreign Affairs of Liberia (see annex).

I should be grateful if you would have the present letter and its annex circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Lami **Kawah**
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

01-41379 (E) 150601

Annex to the letter dated 15 June 2001 from the Permanent Representative of Liberia to the United Nations addressed to the President of the Security Council

I am pleased to present my compliments and to inform the ECOWAS Executive Secretariat that the Government of Liberia has captured several 81mm mortar ammunition cases and spent cartridges in Lofa County from invading rebel forces that attacked the territory of Liberia from Guinea. The ammunition cases and spent cartridges carried the following inscription:

> UK Government Explosive, MOD/ARMY, 8x, 81 MOR, 4 Bombs 81mm MOR HE LI5A3, RDX/TNT, 60/40, FUZ No 162 MK10, B95C GD 3-71.

The Government of Liberia is particularly concerned that the rebels invading Liberia would be using ammunition that matches the ammunition supplied to the Sierra Leone Army by the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, as per ECOWAS exemption from the application of the moratorium dated 5 July 2000 (ECW/REL/9/LEG/109/2000) for the supply of 4,000 rounds of 81mm mortar ammunition.

As you will recall, the Government of Liberia has on several occasions expressed its concern at the supply of arms by the Government of the United Kingdom into the Mano River Union, especially in view of the fact that accountability and control of arms and ammunition supplied could not be guaranteed by the British. This development is particularly troubling in the midst of rebel activities, the prevailing humanitarian crisis, and the urgent need for disarmament in the Mano River Union.

Photos of some of the items captured are available for inspection by ECOWAS ammunition experts, upon request.

The Government of Liberia requests the ECOWAS Executive Secretariat to request, on its behalf, from the British Government an explanation as to how rebels fighting the Liberian Government in Lofa County obtained ammunition similar to that which it supplied the army of neighbouring Sierra Leone.

Kindly circulate this letter as a document of the Security and Mediation Council.

(*Signed*) Monie R. **Captan**
Minister of Foreign Affairs